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Man Convicted of Assaulting, Killing Ex-Girlfriend in Watts

A 51-year-old man was convicted today of assaulting his ex-girlfriend in 2013 and killing her in 2014, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

The jury deliberated for less than two days before finding Mark Anthony Little (dob 12/6/63) guilty of first-degree murder, two counts each of corporal injury to a cohabitant and assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury, and one count each of dissuading a witness from reporting a crime, simple battery of a cohabitant and criminal threats in case TA133341.

Additionally, jurors found true a special allegation that the defendant personally used a deadly and dangerous weapon, a knife, during the commission of the killing.

Little is scheduled to be sentenced July 20 in Department C of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Compton Branch. The defendant faces a possible maximum sentence of 122 years to life in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney Paul Thompson, who prosecuted the case, said Little and Deborah Ann Treptor, 35, had been in a relationship for two years and lived with each other.

During that time, Little severely beat Treptor at different times between December 2013 and April 2014. Also, the defendant threatened to kill her if she revealed the abuse, the prosecutor said.

On April 29, 2014, Treptor broke up with Little. The defendant tried to get back with her and told family that he would not allow Treptor to leave him, the prosecutor said.

Two weeks after the breakup, Little arrived at Treptor's home in Watts in the early morning. The defendant entered Treptor's room and stabbed her twice in the neck, the prosecutor said. Following the attack, Little fled the house.

Surveillance video shown during the trial showed Little running away after the assault, the prosecutor added.

After the attack, Treptor's roommate called 911 for help and the victim was taken to the hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

The same day of the assault, authorities located Little and he was arrested in connection with the killing.

During the homicide investigation, authorities discovered discarded gloves and they contained the victim's blood and Little's DNA, the prosecutor said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.